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Donovan's Gifts Cited By College

NEW YORK --(AP)— International trouble-shooter James B. Donovan has been cited by St. Francis College for his less well-known activities as "a man of culture, a man of education and a man of letters."

Donovan, who defended Soviet spy Rudolf Abel as court-appointed counsel and later arranged the exchange of Abel for American U2 spy Francis Gary Powers, more recently obtained the release from Cuban jails of the Bay of Pigs invasion prisoners and others.

But in awarding the Brooklyn attorney an honorary doctor of letters degree, St. Francis College only mentioned his international fame in passing.

Instead, the citation noted that Donovan has served as president of the Lake Placid Foundation which directs the worldwide use of the Dewey decimal library system; as trustee of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, and as secretary of the Art Commission of the City of New York.

The citation added:

"His sustained concern for both public and private education has been evidenced through the years by his generous service as a lecturer at numerous colleges and universities, as the vice president of the Board of Education of the City of New York and as the first chairman of the Council of Regents of St. Francis College."

The citation hailed Donovan as a man of letters who has "a personal library of unusual quality," including a page from the original Gutenberg Bible of 1456 and a complete copy of the world's first illustrated book, The Nuernberg Chronicle of 1491.